

Message Text

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11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EUR-25 PM-09 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01

OMB-01 RSR-01 /107 W

----- 023692

R 100959 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 807

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 0659

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR SO ET US

SUBJ: EMPEROR'S VISIT TO US

1. GSDR HAS YET MADE NO PUBLIC MENTION OF EMPEROR'S TRIP. LOCAL DIPLOMATS, PARTICULARLY SOVIETS AND -- STRANGELY ENOUGH -- ETHIOPIANS, ARE MOST INTERESTED IN IMPLICATIONS OF TRIP.

2. AT CZECH NATIONAL DAY RECEPTION MAY 9, FONOFF FORMER AMERICAN DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR, DAHIR ASKED CHARGE WHETHER THERE ANY SIGNIFICANCE IN EMPEROR'S VISIT TO US AT THIS TIME. CHARGE REPLIED THAT HE DID NOT KNOW DETAILS OR BACKGROUND, BUT ASSUMED THAT EMPEROR WOULD RENEW LONG FRIENDSHIP WITH PRESIDENT NIXON AND WOULD DISCUSS ETHIOPIA'S BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH USG.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY, ETHIOPIAN CHARGE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD KNOWN NOTHING OF TRIP BEFORE HE HEARD ANNOUNCEMENT ON ETHIOPIAN RADIO BROADCAST. HE PERSONALLY WAS WORRIED ABOUT EMPEROR'S PRESENCE IN WASHINGTON ON EVE OAU MEETINGS. THIS, HE SAID, WOULD TEND LEND FUEL TO LIBYAN CHARGES OF "IMPERIALIST" "ZIONIST" COLLUSION WITH ETHIOPIA. MOREOVER, HE THOUGHT THIS WOULD STRENGTHEN SOVIETS' HAND IN SOMALIA BECAUSE SOVIETS AND SOMALIS WOULD ASSUME THAT EMPEROR'S VISIT MEANT MORE US
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MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ETHIOPIA. HE SAID SOVIET EMBOFFS
AT CZECH RECEPTION HAD PRESSED HIM HARD FOR DETAILS.
CROMWELL

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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